AN

ACT

OF

Common-Council,

For the Government of

Carrs, Carts, Caproons, Carters and Carmen;

AND FOR

The Prevention of Frauds in the Buying and Selling

OF

COALS.

London, Printed for *Christ-Hospital*, in the Year 1681.

Ward Mayor.

Commune Concilium tentum in Camerâ *Guild-hall, London,* die Sabbati 15. die *Octobris,* 1681. Annoq; Regni Regis CAROLI Secundi Angliæ &c. Tricesimo Tertio.

IT *is Ordered by this Court, That the Bill intituled,* An Act for the Government of Carrs, Carts, Carrooms, Carters and Carmen; and for prevention of Fraud in Buying and Selling of Coals, which was now passed, *be forthwith Printed and Published.*

Wagstaffe.

Commune Concilium tentum in Camera *Guild-hall* Civitatis *London*, die Sabbati 15. die *Octobris*, Anno Domini 1681. Annoque Regni Regis CAROLI Secundi *Angliæ*, &c. Tricesimo tertio, coram *Patient' Ward*, Milite, Majore Civitatis *London*, *Johanne More*, Milit', Majore Elect. dict. Civitatis, *Johanne Frederick*, Milit', *Johanne Lawrence*, Milit', *Thoma Bloodworth*, Milit', *Willielmo Turner*, Milit', *Georgio Waterman*, Milit', *Jacobo Edwards*, Milit', *Roberto Clayton*, Milit', Aldermannis; *Georgio Treby*, Milit', Recordatore dict. Civitatis; *Jacobo Smith*, Milit', *Johanne Shorter*, Milit', *Thoma Beckford*, Milit', *Henrico Cornish*, Ar. Aldermannis, & *Thoma Pilkington*, Ar. Aldermanno, ac un. Vic. dict. Civitatis, necnon majore parte Commun. dict. Civitatis in Communi Concilio tunc & ibidem Assemblat'.

An Act for the Government of Carrs, Carts, Carrooms, Carters, and Carmen, and for the prevention of Fraud in the Buying and Selling of Coals.

FOR the better and more regular ordering and disposing of all Carts, Carts, Carrooms, Carters and Carmen, and of all other persons whatsoever, that shall hereafter work any Carts or Carts within this City or the Liberties thereof for Hire, Be it Enacted and Ordained by the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons in Common-Council Assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That one Act of Common-Council made the Second day of April, in the Year of our

Lord God, 1677, in the Mayoralty of Sir Thomas Davies, Knight, for the Government of Carts, Carts, Carrooms, Carters and Carmen, and for the prevention of fraud in the Buying and Selling of Coals, and every Clause, Article, and thing therein contained, be from henceforth Repealed, and the same is hereby repealed and made void to all intents and purposes.

And be it further Enacted and Declared by the Authority aforesaid, That the President and Governours of Christs-Hospital shall have the Allowance, Rule, Overlight and Government of all such Carrs, Carts, Carters and Carmen, and of all other Persons whatsoever, that do or shall hereafter work or use any Carrs, or Carts within the City of London, or the Liberties thereof for Hire, according to the Rules, Directions and Provisions in this present Act mentioned and compriſed. And the present Trade of this City being seriously considered by this Court, They do Adjudge, That four hundred and twenty Carrs or Carts, are a sufficient Number for the Carriage of all manner of Merchandizes and Fuel, within the said City and Liberties thereof. And to the End that all the Streets and Lanes of this City may not be Pestered with Carrs or Carts, and his Majesties Liege People have free passage by Coach or otherwise through the said Streets and Lanes;

Be it Enacted, That the said Number of four hundred and twenty Carrs or Carts, and no more, shall by the said President and Governours be allowed or licensed to work for hire from one place to another, within this City or Liberties thereof; And that each of them shall be made known by having the Arms of this City upon the shaft of every such Cart, and a piece of Brass with the Number upon it. And that if any person or persons, shall presume to work any Carr or Carts within the said City or Liberties, for hire, by himself or Servant, not being duly Licensed or allowed as aforesaid, such person or persons for every time so Offending, shall forfeit and pay the Sum of thirteen shillings and four pence, to be recovered received and obtained as is hereafter mentioned.

And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That there shall not hereafter be any Carr, Cart, or Carts, licensed or allowed to any Wharfingers, Woodmongers, or other Retailer or Retailers in Fuel, or kept or wrought by any Wharfinger, Woodmonger, or other Retailer or Retailers in Fuel, from and after the five and twentieth day of December next ensuing: But such Carr, Cart or Carts, as are part of the said Number of four hundred and twenty Carrs, to be licensed and allowed by the said President and Governours, which are allowed the Carriage of all Wood, Coals, and other Fuel, within the same City and Liberties thereof, at such Rates and in all other re-

spects

ſpects as other Goods and Commodities are uſed to be carried and not otherwiſe: And if any Wharfinger, Woodmonger, or any other Retailer in Fuel ſhall preſume to worke any Carr, Cart or Carrs, contrary to the true meaning hereof, ſuch perſon and perſons, for every time ſo offending, ſhall forfeit and pay for ſuch offence, the Sum of thirteen ſhillings and four pence, to be recovered and obtained as is hereafter mentioned.

Provided nevertheleſs, That it ſhall and may be lawful for every perſon and perſons with his and their own, or with any other Carr, Cart, or Carrs, to bring out of the Country to the ſaid City, or to fetch from the ſaid City, into the Country, any Coals Fuel or other Goods, Wares and Merchandizes. And that it ſhall be lawful for every Retailer of Fuel, to bring home to his or their own Houſes or Wharfs all manner of Fuel, by and with his, their own, or with any other Carr, Cart, and Carts.

And be it further Enacted, by the Authority aforeſaid, That no perſon or perſons who ſhall have any Carr, Cart or Carts, duly licenſed and allowed as aforeſaid, ſhall directly or indirectly, let them out for hire, to be wrought by any others, at any time hereafter, without the approbation and allowance of the ſaid Preſident and Governours of Chriſts-Hoſpital for the time being firſt had obtained, and atteſted in writing under the ſaid Preſidents hand; to the end that none may be admitted to worke any Carr, but ſuch as ſhall be found of civil carriage, and able and meet for that Employment, upon pein that every perſon offending therein, ſhall forfeit the Sum of Ten ſhillings a day, for every day he ſhall let to hire the ſaid Carr or Cart, to be recovered as is hereafter mentioned.

And to the end that the Prizes of Carriage may be moderate, as well for the people as for the Carmen, It is Enacted, that forthwith this preſent Year, and hereafter always from time to time as often as occaſion ſhall require, reaſonable Rates and Prizes of Carriage within this City and Liberties, ſhall be ſet and appointed by the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen, they calling to their Aſſiſtance ſuch of the Commons, as they ſhall think fit for their Information therein. And the ſaid prizes ſo to be ſet and appointed as aforeſaid, to be Printed and ſet upon Poſts in publick places, and a copy thereof to be always carried about by every reſpective Carrman, for the ſatisfaction of all perſons that ſhall deſire to ſee the ſame. And if any Carrman ſhall demand and take more than according to ſuch Rates and Prizes ſo to be ſet down, ſuch perſon or perſons ſo offending, ſhall forfeit and pay for every ſuch offence the Sum of Ten ſhillings, to be had and recovered as is hereafter mentioned.

And for the prevention of such deceipt hereafter, as divers persons have heretofore practised in the Sale and Measure of their Coals. It is Enacted, that all Sea-Coals hereafter to be Sold and Uttered by retail by any person or persons whatsoever, shall be filled and brought home to the Buyers in the Sea-coal Meeters Sacks; or such other Sacks, as contain the full Measure of the Sea-Coal Meeters Sacks, And are and shall be marked by the Keeper of the Guild-Hall for the time being, according to an Order of a Court of Aldermen, made the twenty fifth day of October, in the time of the Mayoralty of Sr. Thomas Cambell Kt. Deceased, And carried by some Street Carr or Carrs of persons duly Licensed and allowed as aforesaid, and bearing upon the same Carrs the mark of the Red cross, for a note of their allowance, as hath anciently been accustomed.

And that all person and persons vending or uttering Sea-coals by retail, and every Carman his Servant or Agent, shall hereafter from time to time and at all times, when they carry or send abroad any Coals within this City of London or Liberties thereof, carry along in their Carr or Carrs, together with their Sea-coals, a good and lawful Bushel, Sealed according to the Bushel in the Guild-Hall allowed for measuring of Sea-coals, which agreeth with the Fat anciently used for measuring of Sea-coals.

But if any person or persons shall bring home, in his or their Cart or Carr, to any Buyer any Coals in any other Sack or Sacks, and without such Bushel, as are before mentioned and appointed, such person so offending shall forfeit and pay Ten shillings, for the first and every other offence respectively.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that the said President and Governours of Christs-Hospital, shall for time to come Observe, Perform, and Execute such legal Acts, Orders, and Rules, as are or shall be made by the Common-Council, or Court of Lord Mayor and Aldermen of this City for the time being, for, touching, and concerning the Government Licensing and Regulating of Carrs, Carts, Carters and Carmen working for hire within the City and Liberties, or touching or concerning the Measures or Assize of Coal-sacks, Coals or other Fuel, or any matter or thing, to the same or any of them in any wise belonging or appertaining.

And whereas divers Woodmongers and others, using to sell and utter Coals by retail within this City and Liberties, in design to raise and enhance the prizes thereof, for their own private gain and Commodity, have commonly heretofore gone or sent down the River of Thames, or otherwise travailed and employed their Agents to meet the Ships and Vessels coming from Newcastle, and other parts towards this City Laden with

Coals,

Coals, and at distant places from the said City, or by precontract within the same City and Liberties, have bought up, forestalled and engrolled great quantities of Coals, which should have been brought to the said City, by the Owners and sellers thereof, to be there sold and uttered at reasonable prizes, and the same have conveyed and brought to the said City, to sell again at high and excessive prizes, against the custom and priviledge of this City, and to the publick detriment, oppression of the poor, and great charge of all others Inhabiting and Dwelling within the said City and Liberties thereof.

For reformation hereof, Be it Enacted, Ordained and Established by the Authority aforesaid, that no Freeman of the said City, shall from and after the said 25th. day of December now next ensuing, either by himself, or any for him, or to his use, Provide, Buy, Bargain and Contract for any Sea-coals, Scotch-coals, Pit-coals, or other Coals coming towards this City, to be Sold, other than such as shall be provided and bought to be spent within their own private Houses, and that no person whatsoever, who hath bought Coals coming to the said City to be Sold, shall sell and utter the same within the said City and Liberties thereof, but that the Owners and Sellers thereof at their own cost and charges, shall and may bring the same Coals to the City themselves, here by them to be Sold, upon pain that all and every person and persons whatsoever, that shall offend contrary to the true intent and meaning hereof, shall forfeit and lose five shillings for every Chaldern of Sea-coals, and the like Sum for every Tun of Scotch coals or Pit-coals that shall be bought, bargained, or contracted for, contrary to the intent and true meaning of this Act, to be recovered as is hereafter mentioned.

And it is Enacted, That the Yeomen of the Woodwharfs of this City for the time being, shall from time to time diligently oversee, that all persons coming and repairing to this City, with any manner of Coals beforementioned to be Sold, do and shall observe, and keep the Orders, Rules and Directions beforegoing, And that they and also the Marshals of this City and their Servants respectively, shall use their utmost Endeavour in the Execution of this Act, and shall use all diligence for the discovery and Punishment of all Offenders, in or about any particular thereof, according to the intent and meaning of this Act.

And Lastly, It is Enacted, that all Pains, Penalties and Forfeitures, in and by this Act limited and appointed, shall and may be recovered by Action of Debt, Bill, or Information in the Name of the Chamberlain of this City for the time being, in his Majesties Court holden before the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of the said City, in the Chamber of the Guild-Hall of

the City of London. And after recovery thereof, one Moyety (after all charges deducted) shall be to the Informer, and the other Moyety to the poor of Christs-Hospital in London, to be imployed for and towards their Relief.

In all which Suits to be brought by this Act, the Chamberlain shall in case he do recover, be allowed his ordinary costs and charges, to be expended in and for recovery of all such forfeitures against the Offender or Offenders. And in case upon a Tryal, the Verdict shall pass for the Defendant, or in case the party shall be Nonsuit or discontinue his Suit; in every such case the Defendant shall also recover his reasonable costs.

Provided always, and be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that no person or persons hereafter to be imployed, in taking care for the putting of this Act in Execution as a Streetman or other Officer, shall be allowed to have any Catcham within the City of London, or the Liberties thereof, any thing in this Act or any other Law, Usage, or Custom of this City to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

Wagstaff

London, Printed for *Christs-Hospital*, in the Year 1681.

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